



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY ACCEPTS DONATION FOR MIRACLE LEAGUE BALL FIELD Park Facility to Provide Recreation Opportunities for Children with Special Needs

The County of San Diego is teaming up with the Miracle League of San Diego to provide the first Southern California ball field designed to provide recreational opportunities for children with special needs.

Today, the County Board of Supervisors accepted a \$300,000 donation from the Miracle League of San Diego to help fund the construction of the Miracle Field project at San Dieguito County Park.

Chairman and 5th District Supervisor Bill Horn praised the project saying, "One of the best ways we serve the public is to provide recreational opportunities for all children throughout the County to live healthier lives and develop positive behaviors. In doing so, we continue the County's commitment to building safe and livable communities and providing healthy opportunities for children. The Miracle League gets everyone in the game."

The \$300,000 donation will be combined with \$100,000 Supervisor Horn provided last year from his discretionary Community Projects Fund and \$805,000 in funding that was allocated by the County to fund the \$1.2 million project.

The San Dieguito Miracle Field will be the result of a successful public-nonprofit partnership between the County of San Diego and the Miracle League of San Diego. "Making this donation to the County is a major milestone for the Miracle League of San Diego," said Suzie Engel, President and Founder of the Miracle League of San Diego. "We've been working together for over a year to raise the necessary funds to begin construction. We're excited to now focus on getting children with disabilities playing baseball on their own safe field," said Engle.

Children with special needs aren't the only ones who will benefit from the new field and programs. The Miracle League will also offer a "buddy" program that partners youth volunteers with players to provide assistance and encouragement.

For more information about the park project, please visit www.sdparks.org. For information about the Miracle League or to make a donation, please visit www.miracleleagueofsandiego.org.

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